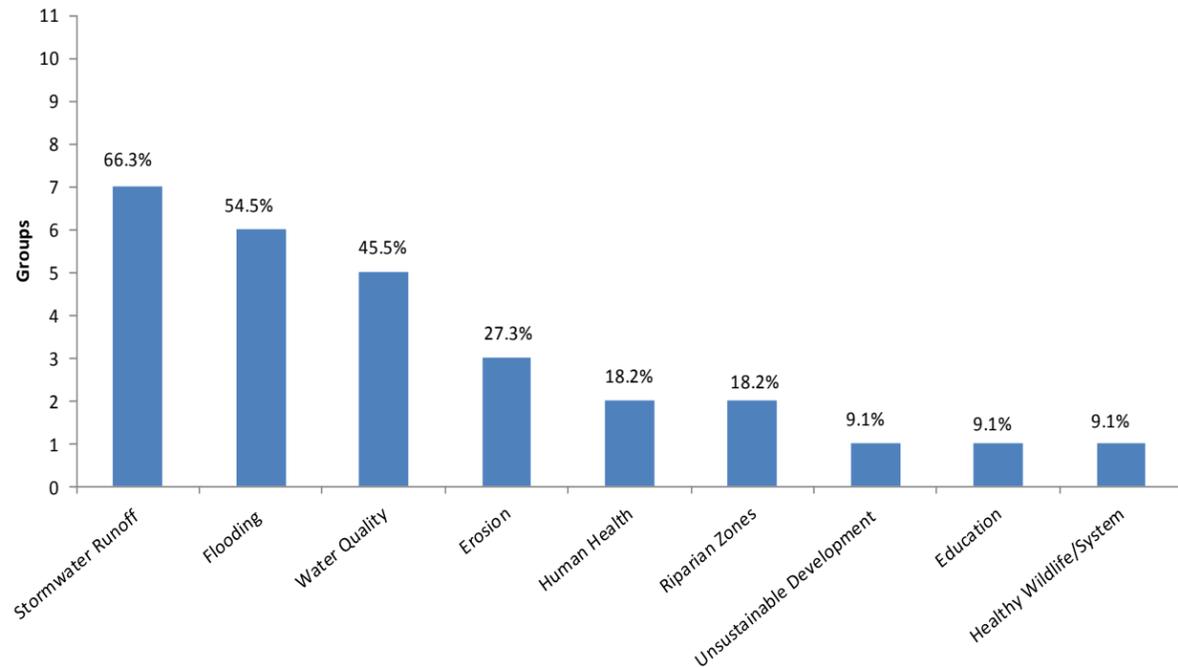


What issues in Gunpowder Creek do you consider a priority?



What can you do?

- Protect the good** that remains. Work with local government and land owners to protect areas that are less degraded and improve land management to minimize further degradation.
- Trees and other plants protect and restore water quality and biological health.**
 - Leave in place or establish trees and other vegetation along streams to provide natural filters that stabilize stream banks, minimize erosion, regulate water flow, provide shade, retain sediment, absorb excess nutrients, and provide habitat.
 - Don't mow to the edge of a stream. Leave a buffer of trees and other vegetation at least 18 yards wide along the stream bank.
 - Allow fallen trees, logs, leaves, gravel, cobble and boulders to remain in the stream to create habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates to feed, find refuge and reproduce.
 - Minimize streamside grazing by animals.
- Reduce Total Suspended Solids (TSS)**
 - Maintain streamside vegetation.
 - Plant cover crops.
 - Install settling ponds.
 - Reduce animal access to streamside grazing.
 - Guard waterways during construction activities.
- Education**
 - Check out some of the resources provided on the front page. Knowing how our daily actions affect water quality is half the battle to improve it.
- To keep water safe for swimming**
 - Maintain functional septic systems and replace failing septic systems.
 - Pick up after your pets. Dispose of animal waste properly.
 - Keep animals out of the stream.
- Other Tips**
 - Keep grass clippings and petroleum products out of storm drains. This material enters the stream directly without treatment.
 - Dispose of trash and recyclables properly.
 - Disconnect downspouts from storm sewers.
 - Install a rain garden to absorb storm water and reduce the amount of runoff from your property.
 - Consider using porous pavement for driveways and parking lots.
 - Have your soil tested and apply fertilizers according to the results of the soil test. Apply pesticides according to label directions. Check the weather before applying fertilizers and pesticides to be sure they will be absorbed before it rains!
- Volunteer**
 - Become a certified citizen water quality monitor by joining Kentucky Watershed Watch. Contact Watershed Watch in Kentucky at water.ky.gov/wsw/Pages/default.aspx or contact Jo Ann Palmer at 800-928-0045 or JoAnn.Palmer@ky.gov
 - Organize a creek clean-up to remove litter along and within Gunpowder Creek.



Gunpowder Creek Watershed Initiative

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 Follow us on Facebook!
Boone County Conservation District, Kentucky



For more information

Water Quality Reports

<http://water.ky.gov/waterquality/Pages/default.aspx>

Like "Kentucky Watershed Health Reports" on Facebook.



Or contact:

Kentucky Division of Water
Licking River Basin Coordinator
200 Fair Oaks Lane 4th Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-564-3410 Ext. 4937

What other watersheds are doing:

- Hinkston Creek at <http://www.hinkstoncreek.org/index.html>
- Strodes Creek Conservancy at <http://www.strodescreek.org>
- Friends of Stoner Creek at <http://www.stonercreek.us/>

This work was funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under §319(h) of the Clean Water Act through the Kentucky Division of Water to the Boone County Conservation District (Grant # 09-10).

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Gunpowder Creek Watershed Initiative 2013 Community Roundtables Summary Report

In 2009 the Boone County Conservation District started the Gunpowder Creek Watershed Initiative to develop a plan for the long-term stewardship of Gunpowder Creek. This initiative is a result of local citizens continued concern over increased flooding events, stormwater runoff, property damage, water quality issues and other factors in the watershed affecting the health of the stream and the health and safety of the community. Several community meetings and two years of data collection have led to a better understanding of the issues affecting Gunpowder Creek and emerging impairments.

Information and participation from the community to develop and implement a comprehensive watershed plan is fundamental. The Gunpowder Creek Watershed Initiative held a series of Community Roundtable Meetings in September of 2013. The meetings were held at three locations and dates throughout the Gunpowder Creek Watershed including the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Florence, the Fire Station in Union, and YMCA Camp Ernst near Burlington. Anyone who lives, works, or recreates in the watershed was asked to attend a meeting to share their experiences and interests in Gunpowder Creek. Participants discussed practical and cost effective solutions to the problems that were identified. Approximately 70 participants from the more developed headwater areas in the east side of the county to the more rural areas in the west attended the meetings.

Greta Steverson from the Natural Resources Conservation Service facilitated the meetings. Five questions were developed for attendees to

consider. These questions were: 1. Why is a clean healthy stream important to you? 2. What land uses in the watershed are you most concerned about? 3. What do you think are the most common problems (i.e. agriculture, urban runoff etc.)? 4. What best management practices (BMPs) do you consider feasible in Gunpowder Creek? 5. What issues in Gunpowder Creek do you consider a priority?

The purpose of these questions was to gain an understanding of how the community values Gunpowder Creek, and what they perceive to be the greatest problems and most practical solutions to these problems.

During the sessions, 11 groups consisting of 5 to 10 participants were asked to answer the questions. Notes from the groups were compiled and one member from each group presented the results of their

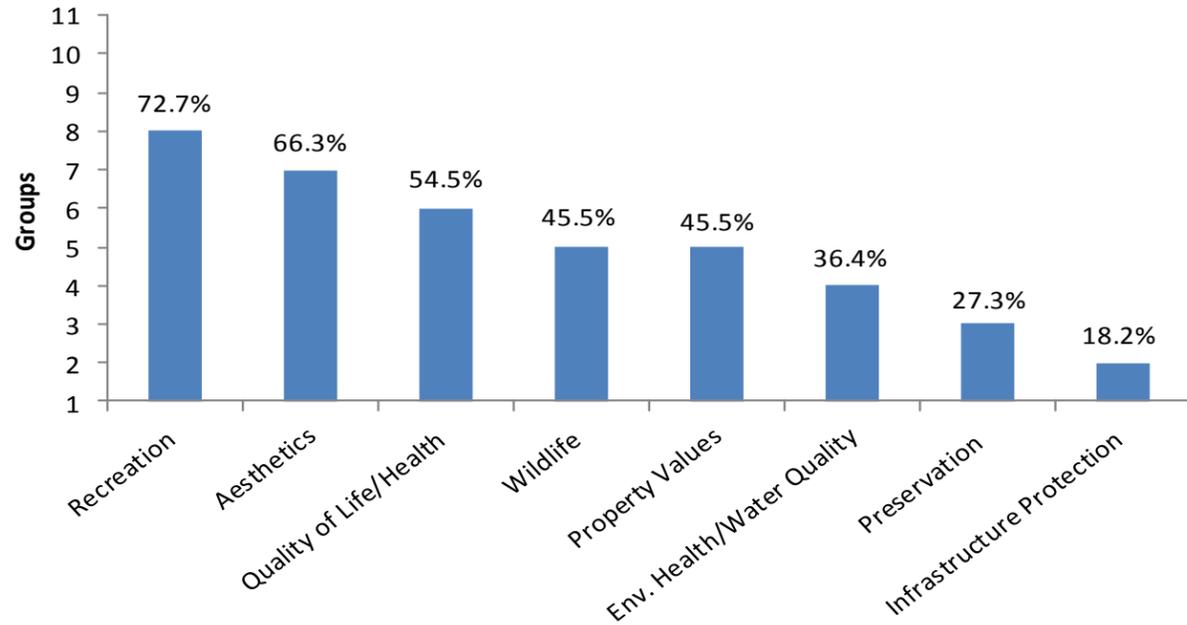
group's discussion. In all three meetings most of the concerns with Gunpowder Creek were related to development. This includes the effects of stormwater runoff from developed areas leading to flooding, damage to private property and infrastructure, and poor water quality. A lack of effective regulations and a lack of public education about these problems was also a recurring concern at the meetings.

The information gathered in the Watershed Roundtable Meetings is an important part of the watershed planning process. The interest, attitudes and opinions of the community will be the driving force behind implementing a successful long-term management plan for Gunpowder Creek. This information will be incorporated into the watershed plan and used to prioritize time, money and effort in employing the most practical management strategies.

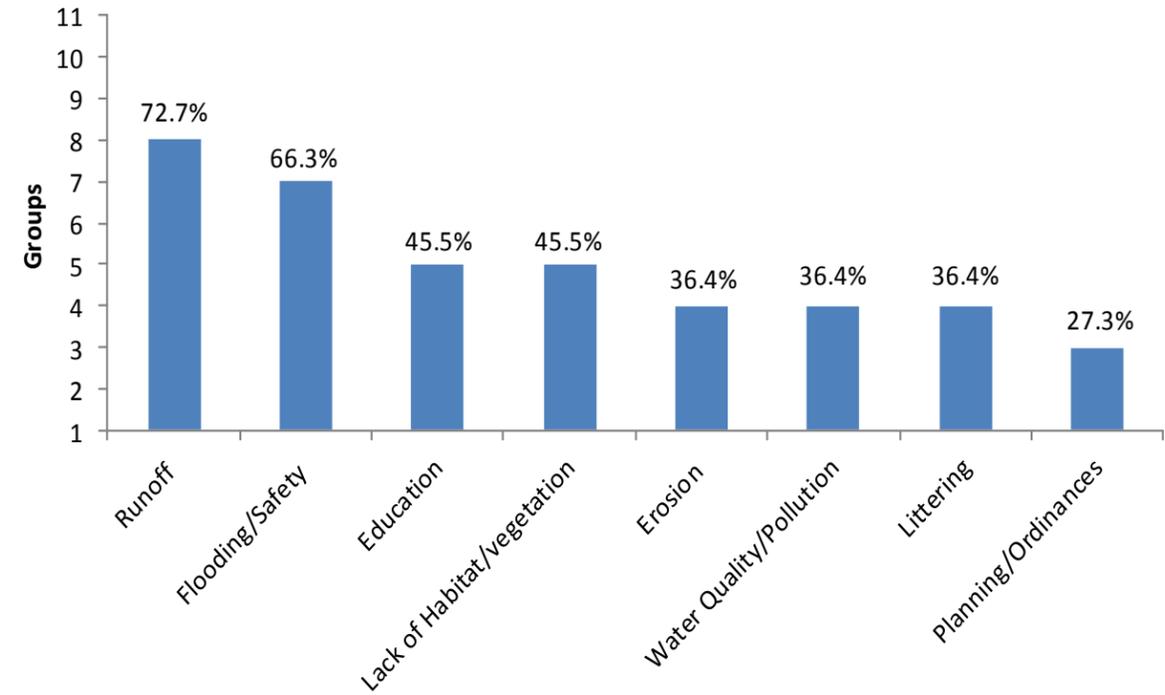


The figures below are a compilation of answers to the five questions posed to each group at all three roundtable meetings. Seventy participants in eleven groups of five to ten individuals participated in the roundtable meetings. The percentages on the bar charts indicate the frequency that the answer was submitted by each group. All group responses were included in this summary. Groups were not asked to rank answers in order of importance.

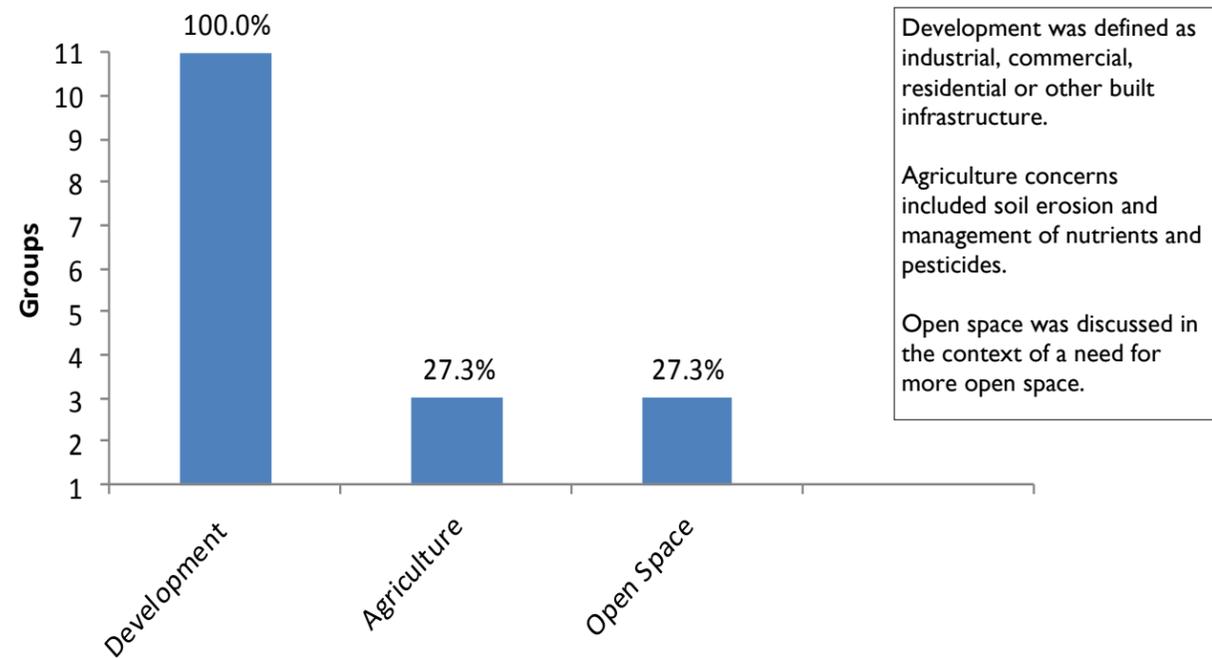
Why is a Clean Healthy Stream Important to You?



What do you think are the most common problems (i.e. agriculture, urban runoff, etc.) ?



What land uses in the watershed are you most concerned about?



What Best Management Practices (BMPs) do you consider feasible in Gunpowder Creek?

